

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

- 5 1. A method of promoting neurogenesis comprising the step of:
 administering a therapeutic amount of a nitric oxide donor compound to a
 patient in need of neurogenesis promotion.
- 10 2. A compound for promoting neurogenesis comprising an effective
 amount of a nitric oxide donor sufficient to promote neurogenesis.
- 15 3. A neurogenesis promoter comprising a nitric oxide donor in a
 pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.
- 20 4. The neurogenesis promoter according to claim 3, wherein said nitric
 oxide donor augments nitric oxide in a tissue.
- 25 5. The neurogenesis promoter according to claim 4, wherein said nitric
 oxide donor is selected from the group consisting essentially of phosphodiesterase
 inhibitors, L-arginine, sildenafil, and LIPITOR.
- 30 6. A method of augmenting the production of neurons by administering an
 effective amount of a nitric oxide donor to a site in need of augmentation.
- 35 7. A method of increasing neurological function by administering an
 effective amount of a nitric oxide donor to a patient. *in need*.
- 40 8. A method of increasing cognitive and neurological function by
 administering an effective amount of a nitric oxide donor compound to a patient. *in need*

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